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SUBJECT: ARGENTINA DEMARCHED ON GOLDSTONE REPORT

REF: SECSTATE 112828

[¶1.](#) (U) Poloff discussed on November 3 the reftel points regarding the Goldstone Report and the November 4 consideration by the UN General Assembly of a resolution on the topic with Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials from the General Directorate on Human Rights. Argentine officials Eduardo Acevedo Diaz (Minister), Silvia Cao (Counselor) and Gustavo Rutilo (Secretary) were well versed on the issue and came to the meeting with the draft Arab Group resolution distributed in New York that morning. They appreciated receipt of the U.S. perspectives and committed to sharing with the Foreign Minister's office, noting that a decision on the vote had not yet been made.

[¶2.](#) (SBU) The Argentines described the resolution as more "moderate" than had been expected, noting that the proposed action items, particularly the request for a three-month follow-up on investigations from both Israel and Hamas, was in their view more evenhanded than other aspects of the report had been. They agreed that the short time available to consider all of the implications and potential precedents in the draft resolution was too limited and might require another cautious explanatory statement from Argentina, as it had done in Geneva, if it voted in favor. The Argentines voiced appreciation for U.S. engagement on the peace process

and underscored their strong support for a two-state solution. Also crucial, from their perspective, was that impunity over human rights violations not be permitted.

[¶3.](#) (SBU) The GOA officials took on board U.S. perspectives on the expanding Israeli investigations of incidents during the fighting, the principle of complementarity in international judicial mechanisms, and the reality that violence against civilians by rocket attacks was a serious issue both at the time of the conflict and now as an impediment to effective investigations. They heard with interest additional U.S. concerns, including the precedents of referral to the UNSC, referral to the Fourth Geneva Convention, and of establishing time limits for judicial processes.
MARTINEZ